GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1321
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2004
OPPORTUNITIES IN SSI SECTOR
Singh Shri Sitaram

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a): the special measures adopted to promote the economic interests of the SCs/STs by setting up and maintaining small scale industries; and

(b): the details of the schemes and programmes that have been adopted to provide more opportunities to educated unemployed youth to make them economically strong?

Answer

MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES & AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a)&(b): The Government has been promoting the cause of weaker sections, particularly SCs and STs, through its schemes and programmes being implemented for promotion and development of Small Scale Industries in the country. Some of the schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Small Scale Industries that have specific reservations/concessions/ preferences for SCs/STs are Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP), Management Development Programme (MDP) etc. Further, the Government in the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries (ARI) implements the Prime Minister`s Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) to assist the educated unemployed youth in setting up self-employment ventures in industry, service and business sectors. The scheme envisages 22.5 per cent reservation for youths of SCs/STs. The Government in the Ministry of ARI also implements the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), a credit linked subsidy programme, to assist setting up industries in rural areas, with project cost of upto Rs. 25 lakh. Under the REGP, eligible youth from SCs and STs are entitled to a higher margin money grant of 30 per cent (against 25 per cent for others) of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakh and 10 per cent of the balance cost of the project upto Rs. 25 lakh.